

**American Legion Auxiliary Department of Texas  
Program Action Plan  
Chaplain  
2018-2019**

**Department of Texas Chaplain,  
Shirley Denson  
935 Monterrey Dr.  
Beaumont, Tx 77709  
[charlesdenson@att.net](mailto:charlesdenson@att.net)  
Cell# 409-866-6337**

*American Legion Auxiliary chaplains express, by word and action, our founding principle of service to God and Country and encourage all departments to celebrate diversity among people and faiths. Auxiliary chaplains provide spiritual and emotional guidance when needed or requested, always sending dignity and respect to the occasion.*

*They energize the hearts of Auxiliary members and foster selflessness as they serve veterans, the military and their families.*

*It is with great pleasure to serve the Department of Texas as your State Chaplain.*

**Programs and Activities:**

**It should be the objective of the chaplain to:**

- 1. Pray for the American Legion Auxiliary, its members and leaders, for success in carrying out our mission.*
- 2. Guide members through prayer experiences that are appropriate for the situation.*
- 3. Act as spiritual ambassador of the organization .*

**Through bulletins and other means of communication, the chaplain should:**

- 1. Provide and promote emotional and spiritual support to The American Legion Family by sending emails, prayers, etc., to members throughout the administrative year.*
- 2. Reconnect with the heart of God, the master of might, and promote our founding fathers' desire to create one nation under God.*
- 3. The chaplain is responsible for all invocations, benedictions, and memorial services for deceased members at official meetings.*
- 4. Recommend educational materials that promote a spirit of unity and love.*
- 5. Schedule spiritual, fun events throughout the year that provide fellowship time and spiritual growth.*

**All prayers and devotional thoughts must be non-denominational.**

**Non-denominational means "not restricted to or associated with a religious denomination."**

**(Source: [www.answers.com/topic/nondenominational](http://www.answers.com/topic/nondenominational).)**

*The chaplain should be involved in many activities. Such as:*

1. *Reporting the names of members that are ill at meetings and presenting cards for all who are present to sign.*
2. *Sending a sympathy card to the family and if possible visiting the funeral home when a member passes away. She may also be assigned to ask the family if they wish to have a funeral dinner.*
3. *Being in charge of any religious services the Unit may have, such as draping the charter or performing memorial services.*
4. *Visiting members and veterans in nursing homes and hospitals.*
5. *Visiting members and veterans who are shut-in at home.*
6. *Keeping in contact with all Gold Star Mothers and remembering them during all holidays.*
7. *Sending cards to members and their family members.*
8. *Volunteering in community projects.*
9. *Making a prayer and devotional book.*
10. *Encouraging members to send prayers and devotional thoughts so that she can use them to make a prayer book.*

**Additional Resources You Can Use:**

1. [www.ALforVeterans.org](http://www.ALforVeterans.org)
  - a. **American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guide Book**
  - b. **Guidelines for National Chaplain of the American Legion Auxiliary**
  - c. **National Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary**
  - d. **Chaplains' Prayer Book of the American Legion Auxiliary**
2. **Auxiliary Chaplains on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/alachaplains](https://www.facebook.com/groups/alachaplains)**

**National no longer has the Prayer Book Contest:**

**The Department of Texas will not have a Prayer Book Contest, but instead we are asking for the Division | District | Unit Chaplain's to send in your favorite prayer to the Department Chaplain for Madam President's prayer book that will be presented to her at Department Convention.**

**National Annual Reporting**

**An annual report is not required; however, a year-end summary and a mid-year progress report are suggested as tools to gauge the direction and effectiveness of department activities. Both narratives should be forwarded to the national chaplain by January 5, 2019, for mid-year and May 15, 2019, for year-end. Contact information is provided on the front page of this program action plan.**